

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention encompasses a novel gene encoding a protein of the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway, UBP8rp. The invention also relates the use of UBP8rp polypeptides for screening for modulators, and to the use of said modulators for treating chronic inflammatory diseases such as, 5 *e.g.*, psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, asthma, inflammatory bowel disease and multiple sclerosis. The invention further relates to the use of biallelic markers located in the UBP8rp gene for diagnosing said chronic inflammatory diseases.